

## Lockdown Bible Study Session 6

**Faith:** It will be according to your Faith

Matthew 9:27-30 Romans 10:17 Matthew 17:20	1 Timothy 6:12 Hebrews 12:2 Mark 5:21-43
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Matthew 9:27-30 New King James Version (NKJV)

Two Blind Men Healed

**27** When Jesus departed from there, two blind men followed Him, crying out and saying, “Son of David, have mercy on us!” **28** And when He had come into the house, the blind men came to Him. And Jesus said to them, “**Do you believe that I am able to do this?**” They said to Him, “Yes, Lord.” **29** Then He touched their eyes, saying, “**According to your faith let it be to you.**” **30** And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, saying, “See *that* no one knows *it.*”

**Introduction:** Faith as a Channel

**Faith is the channel through which we connect to God** who is invisible. **Faith is a channel.** Hebrews 11 tells us what the patriarchs **accomplished through faith.** Paul tells us that we are **saved by grace through faith.** **The channel through which we receive anything from God is called faith.**

Romans 10:17 New King James Version (NKJV)

**17** So then **faith comes** by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

**Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God.** Every time the **Lord speaks to you, faith arises** in your heart. **Faith is a substance of the spirit realm.** We do not reason about faith. **We receive faith.**

- Mustard seed-size Faith

Matthew 17:20 New King James Version (NKJV)

**20** So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have **faith as a mustard seed**, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and **nothing will be impossible for you.**”

You **do not need great faith**; just a **grain of mustard seed-size faith.** We make a **mistake to think we need giant defeating faith!** **All we need is a little faith** and **our God will defeat the giants** for us!

**We do not need faith in our faith, we need faith in God!**

- The Good fight of Faith

The fight of faith is **not for the strong**, but **for everyone who dares to believe.** There is something **eternal about believing: it produces long lasting results**, not just for yourself but for those who follow in your footsteps.

1 Timothy 6:12 New King James Version (NKJV)

**12 Fight the good fight of faith**, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.

- The Race of Faith

**The race of faith** is different than most other races: it is **not only for the swift**. Of course, **we get tired of running sometimes**, just like we would get weary in mind and in body, but **Jesus is the author and finisher of our faith** and **He has given us His divine assurance that He will guide us and lead us** until we reach the finishing line! **The reward awaits everyone who finishes the race!** Run the Race of Faith.

Hebrews 12:1-4 New King James Version (NKJV)

The Race of Faith

**12** Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith**, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. **3** For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, **lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. 4** You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

- **God specializes in things thought impossible**
- **God specializes in things thought incurable**
- **Faith in God can move a mighty mountain or roll over some rocks if need be**
- **Faith can calm the troubled sea**
- **Faith in God can make deserts like a fountain**

**Faith is your channel through which you receive things from God.**

That is **why the devil, the enemy of your soul will constantly attack your faith**, because if he can rob you of your faith, he can destroy you.

- Faith and patience work together

**We learn to walk by faith and not by sight** – even if you do not see the promise manifested in the natural realm yet, **we behold it afar off, embracing it and welcoming it** as a reality, convinced that God keeps His promises.

- Faith for people being perfected

**Faith is for people who are being perfected and not for perfect people!** By faith you **overcome your own human weaknesses** and **learn to trust in God to perfect that which concerns you**. Through faith all things become possible!

## Mark 5:21-43 (Reading)

*When Jairus asked Jesus to come and minister to his little daughter who lay dying of disease Jesus immediately went to his house. On the way a woman with an issue of blood touched the hem of Jesus' garment and received a miraculous cure for she said, if I can only touch the hem of his garment, I shall be made whole!*

*While Jesus was walking with a crowd surrounding him (they followed him to Jairus's house) he suddenly stopped and asked a strange question: Who touched me? This seemed strange because so many people jostled and pushed to be near the Master that many probably touched Him. But this woman's touch was different. She touched Him by faith and He felt virtue leaving Him.*

*She connected with His divine power and He felt how it left him. The Greek word 'touch' does infer a strong pulling action, so she probably grabbed hold of His garment in a forcible way. Nevertheless, He felt something leave Him. To this woman Jesus said, Woman your faith has made you whole!*

*At about that time Jairus's servants came and reported that the little girl had died.: Do not bother the master any more, she is dead. Jesus' reaction to this report was unusual: do not fear: only believe and she will be made well.*

*When He came into the house, he permitted no one to enter except the parents and three of His disciples. He put the professional mourners out of the house and said: The girl is not dead, she is sleeping. They laughed at him to scorn, knowing that she was dead. But He took her by the hand and called and said: little girl, arise!*

*Then her spirit returned and she arose immediately. And He commanded that she be given something to eat. Her parents were astonished but He told them not to tell anyone about it.*

*Notice Jesus' effort to believe: He addressed the fear that the report brought and gave the father hope to hold on to: do not fear, only believe and she will be made well.*

**Conclusion:** Correct Inner Picture

**The inner picture has to be correct! What you see on the inside is so important. Faith needs a clear picture to produce something with the spiritual substance of hope. According to your faith let it be to you!**

**Things which are seen were not made of things which are visible:** in other words what you see now is not how things are going to be! **Things are going to change if you only believe! It will be according to your faith.**

## Lockdown Bible Study Session 7

### **Faith:** Faith agrees with God's Word

Philippians 2:12-16 James 3:4-6 Numbers 13:30 Numbers 14:6-9 1 Peter 5:6-7	Philippians 4:6-7 Revelation 2:17 Jude 14-16 Isaiah 29:24
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#### Philippians 2:12-16 New King James Version (NKJV)

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. 14 **Do all things without complaining and disputing**, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 **holding fast the word of life**, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

**Introduction:** The reason that God hates murmuring is because **it cuts you off from His divine supply**. That is why **Paul commands us to do everything without murmuring and complaint**.

**If you murmur and complain you disagree with God's word and negate the power of God.** God cannot help you. **If you murmur against God then God is no longer obligated to perform His word for you.** (See Jeremiah 29:10) **His promises won't work for you.**

#### James 3:4-6 New King James Version (NKJV)

4 Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are **turned by a very small rudder** wherever the pilot desires. 5 Even so **the tongue is a little member and boasts great things**. See how **great a forest a little fire kindles!** 6 And **the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity**. The **tongue** is so set among our members that it **defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature**; and it is **set on fire by hell**.

- Examples in the Word of miracles and healings received as people **agreed with God's word**.

#### Luke 5:14

Jesus told **the leper to go and show himself to the priest** according to the Law of Moses. Remember Jesus was still an Old Testament prophet under the law although He came to introduce the New Testament in His own blood. **If the leper murmured and complained and decided not to show himself to the priest, he would not have received his miracle.** He would still be leprous.

#### John 5:1-15

Jesus told **the lame man at the pool of Bethesda: rise up, take up your bed and go home!** If the lame man replied: **'can't you see I am lame?'** he would not have been cured of his lameness. When **Jesus asked him if he wants to be made whole, he blamed other people for his calamity: 'Sir, I have no one to**

**take me to the water!** They believed that an angel came down and stirred the water of the pool and the one who gets in first will be healed. **Jesus** came and **healed him** and **eventually told him**, ‘**go and sin no more**’. So **murmuring was like a sin to Jesus**.

Luke 5:5

**Peter and the disciples** had to learn the lesson of agreeing in faith with the word of God. When they **toiled all night and never caught any fish** **Jesus** appeared on the beach and **told them to let the net down on the other side** and they will catch fish. Peter said, ‘**Master, we toiled all night and caught nothing, but at your word we will let down the net!**’ and **they caught a great number of fish!**

**As people obeyed the word of God the power of God was released.** Those who **agreed in faith with the word of God were healed, delivered, cleansed and restored.**

The **tongue is a powerful weapon**, it steers the body like a rudder steers a ship. If **we align our mouths with the Word of God**, we **help our faith.**

**Murmur in Greek** is ‘maomai’ and it means ‘self-love’. **When we murmur it shows how self-centered we really are!**

**Stop murmuring and start believing!** **Murmuring is snorting in anger under your breath.**

- **Faith operates in the Spiritual realm**

**Physical senses were not made to believe with.** **Faith operates in the unseen, spiritual realm.**

- **We inherit the promises through Faith**

Israel’s murmuring **kept them out of the Promised Land.**

**Murmuring and complaining in unbelief and doubt wiped out the Exodus generation**, all but **Joshua and Caleb**, who **spoke in faith** about the promised land.

Numbers 13:30 New King James Version (NKJV)

**30** Then **Caleb quieted the people** before **Moses**, and said, “Let us go up at once and take possession, for **we are well able to overcome it.**”

Numbers 14:6-9 New King James Version (NKJV)

**6** But **Joshua** the son of **Nun** and **Caleb** the son of **Jephunneh**, *who were* among those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; **7** and they spoke to all the congregation of the children of **Israel**, saying: “**The land we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. 8 If the LORD delights in us, then He will bring us into this land and give it to us, ‘a land which flows with milk and honey.’ 9 Only do not rebel against the LORD, nor fear the people of the land, for they are our bread; their protection has departed from them, and the LORD is with us. Do not fear them.**”

**Caleb saw the same giants** and walled city as the other spies, but the ten spies brought back an “**evil report**” of unbelief. **Caleb’s words declared a conviction**—a “confession”—**before all Israel: “We are well**

able to overcome.” He had surveyed the land, a reminder that faith is not blind. Faith does not deny the reality of difficulty; it declares the power of God in the face of difficulty.

- **Patience is required**

There is a message in the spirit of Caleb’s response to the rejection of his faith-filled report. Some use their confession of faith to cultivate schism, but **Caleb stood his ground in faith and still moved in partnership** and support—for forty years—**beside many whose unbelief delayed his own experience.**

During the waiting period for the manifestation of God’s promise, during disappointments, hold on to God’s word in faith. Agree with God’s word.

Caleb’s eventual possession of the land (at a later date) indicates that **even though delays come, faith’s confession will ultimately bring victory to the believer.**

One of the greatest helps in learning to walk by faith is to **let patience have its perfect work in our lives.** According to **Hebrews 6:12** we should **imitate those who through faith and patience inherited the promises of God.** So it is **patience** that’ll **keep the door open for faith to work.**

- **Agree with God**

Paul wrote to Philemon (Philemon 1:14) and said, **‘without your consent I will do nothing.’** That is also God’s word to us: **without agreeing with God He can do nothing for us.**

- **Cast your cares on the Lord**

[1 Peter 5:6-7](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**6** Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time, **7 casting all your care upon Him**, for He cares for you.

**Learn to cast all your cares upon Him** for He cares for you. **Don’t murmur about your cares. Don’t burden other people with your cares. Talk to God about them in prayer** and leave them there.

[Philippians 4:6-7](#) *New International Version (NIV)*

**6** Do not be anxious about anything, but **in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.** **7** And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- **Name yourself accurately**

“Abram” means “Conquer” or “Patriarch.” “Abraham” means “Father of a Multitude.” **Every time Abraham heard or spoke his own name, he would be reminded of God’s promise.** Adam Clarke’s Commentary states it well: **Do not “name” yourself anything less than God does.**

**Abram’s name also contains a bit of God’s name:** At the same time that the Lord blessed Abram; He changed his name from Abram to Abraham, and the name of his wife Sarai to Sarah. The letter “h” which was added to Abram’s name and to his wife’s, was **from the Lord’s own name Jehovah**, and it was **a sign that Abraham and Sarah were to be His children, to obey Him, and as far as they could, to be like Him.**

In Revelation we see Jesus giving those who overcome a white stone with a **new name**:

[Revelation 2:17](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**17** “He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give some of the hidden manna to eat. And I will give him a white stone, and on the stone **a new name written which no one knows except him who receives it.**”

Let's **speak what God speaks over our lives, pull out the prophecies and wage war with them**, live out our spiritual identity.

**Conclusion:**

[Matthew 8:5-10](#)

Jesus commended the centurion for **the greatest faith**. He recognized that **all disease has to obey the Master Healer**.

**Miriam and Aaron murmured against Moses' leadership and became leprous. Moses had to pray and intercede for them** so that God could heal them.

[Jude 14-16](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**14** Now Enoch, the seventh from Adam, prophesied about these men also, saying, “Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousands of His saints, **15** to **execute judgment** on all, to convict all who are ungodly among them of all their ungodly deeds which they have committed in an ungodly way, and of **all the harsh things which ungodly sinners have spoken against Him.**” **16** **These are grumblers, complainers**, walking according to their own lusts; and they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.

[Isaiah 29:24](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

**24** These also who erred in spirit will come to understanding,  
**And those who complained will learn doctrine.”**

So, **let us stop murmuring and complaining and begin to believe and confess our faith instead**. Then **we will not be cut off from the divine supply!** It is a great lesson to learn

## Lockdown Bible Study Session 8

**Faith:** We live by Faith

Hebrews 10:35-39 Isaiah 30:15 Hebrews 10:20 James 1:6-8 Matthew 18:19	Ephesians 2:10 Romans 12:3-4 Ephesians 2:8-10 2 Corinthians 12:9
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Hebrews 10:35-39 New King James Version (NKJV)

**35** Therefore do not cast away your confidence, which has great reward. **36** For you have need of endurance, so that after you have done the will of God, you may receive the promise: **37** “For yet a little while, And He who is coming will come and will not tarry. **38** Now the just shall live by faith; But if *anyone* draws back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” **39** But we are not of those who draw back to perdition, but of those who believe to the saving of the soul.

**Introduction:** When the **world** speaks about **confidence** they speak about **self-confidence**. When Christians speak about confidence, **we refer to a reliance on the Word of God**. In order to **grow in confidence**, we have to **lean in on our experiential knowledge of the Word** of God.

- **Substance of our Faith**

We can then say **we have a substance of faith: What is the substance of our faith?**

Firstly; it is **the accumulated evidence of our faith** and secondly it is **the Word of God inside of us**. That is **why we have confidence** to look to Him in moments of **trial and** in our **many tribulations**. Andrea Crouch wrote in a song called 'through it all': 'If I never had a problem, how could I ever know that God could solve them? **I would never know what faith in God could do!** **If it was not for the storm** Pieter would never have known how to walk on water.

**Do you know what your faith in God has done for you? Thankfulness is the antidote to worry** Prophet Hilana says. So, **we operate from that place of knowing** that “**if God had done this for me in the past**” I **can with confidence look to the future**. You **tap into this way of living through thanksgiving and praise**. **Our faith then has a substance from which we now can live**.

The **foundation that we therefore operate from is the substance of our faith** and not fact. Sometimes the facts stay the same but **supernaturally we operate in a new and living way**. (Apostle Andre spoke about his nose that was broken and the supernatural healing received although physically on an xray the nose still looks broken) **Faith is our foundation. We live by faith and not by facts - so we wait on confidence in our spirit man and then we walk on the substance of faith.**

- **Quiet Confidence**

Isaiah 30:15 New King James Version (NKJV)

**15** For thus says the Lord God, the Holy One of Israel: "In **returning and rest** you shall be saved; In **quietness and confidence shall be your strength.**"

**Self-confidence is paying attention to self.** Confidence in others is **paying attention to others.** The Bible speaks of a **quiet confidence that is paying attention to God.** It is a **confidence that will not fail** - a quiet confidence in our source **Christ Jesus.** **Belief in Jesus makes us righteous,** which gives us peace with God. This results in a **quiet confidence.**

**The way God operates is a mystery to us** and we cannot work it out with our own understanding - but God can give us a measure of understanding of how He operates **so that we can develop confidence in His ability.**

- **No Double-mindedness**

**Jesus came and opened up a new and living way.** Faith only operates in this new and spiritual place where there is no double mindedness - only a single mindedness.

Hebrews 10:20 New King James Version (NKJV)

**20** by a **new and living way** which He consecrated for us, through the veil, that is, His flesh,

James 1:6-8 New King James Version (NKJV)

**6** But let him **ask in faith,** with **no doubting,** for **he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.** **7** For let not that man suppose that **he will receive anything from the Lord;** **8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.**

His ways, meaning **God's ways are higher than the dualism the world lives by.** So, if we access His ways, we **no longer operate on 50/50 principles.** We make up our minds and by **faith and confidence we do the will of the Father.**

So, if **God gives an opportunity to do something your confidence is in** the fact that **God has already prepared you for it.** Then **make a choice and walk by faith.** If you doubt you **cannot operate.** Make up your mind and go for it. **Do not be double minded.**

- **Supernatural Gift of Faith**

Matthew 18:19 New King James Version (NKJV)

**19** "Again I say to you that **if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them** by My Father in heaven.

**If we all (the whole body) can see ourselves doing things for the Lord we can move into the supernatural gift of faith.**

Ephesians 2:10 New King James Version (NKJV)

**10** For **we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,** which **God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.**

Our confidence then is based upon faith that we have already been prepared by God to walk into things like healing, prosperity and abundant living, other nations etc.

- **Perspective on Purpose**

We no longer have to **struggle to find our purpose in life**, nor discover our destiny: **we can follow the Lamb wherever he goes and in walking by faith, one step at a time, we are fulfilling His purpose in our lives.**

So, we learn to be content in whatever state we are in. Learn to trust God when things go your way and when they don't. If you rely upon Him, everything works together for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to His purpose.

- **Measure of Faith**

Romans 12:3-4 New King James Version (NKJV)

3 For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think *of himself* more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as **God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.** 4 For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function.

God has given **each one a measure of faith** for what He requires of you. When God created you, he gave each one a different capacity for what they should do for Him. Each person has got a capacity to do things that no one else has the capacity to do. The right amount of faith was measured out by God for each one and has already been given to us.

That's why when the disciples ask Jesus to give them more faith he said; No. You've got the right amount already. Use what you've got. We already have it so we do not have to perform to receive it.

The biggest problem with Christianity is that people are trying to obtain things that they already have received. When you are looking for things you already have you can't find it. God has already given you a measure of faith. You will only start to find the reward of faith once you stop looking for it.

The same is true of all things concerning kingdom. We can grow in our understanding of it but we have righteousness, peace and joy. We have humility and meekness - we have the character of Christ.

- **Grace through Faith**

Ephesians 2:8-10 New King James Version (NKJV)

8 For **by grace you have been saved through faith**, and that **not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,** 9 **not of works, lest anyone should boast.** 10 For **we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works**, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Another one of the greatest helps in learning to walk by faith is to **learn to live by grace through faith.** How have you come so far in life? By grace through faith. How have you overcome things in your life so far? By grace through faith. How have you been saved? By grace through faith. How have you been healed? By grace through faith. How do you receive guidance? By grace through faith. How do you receive provision? By grace through faith.

How many times in your life did you think that you won't make it? And how did you get through it? By grace through faith.

Not always according to what you have, but by grace through faith. That is how you hear. By grace through faith. How have you been able to make the payments you have made so far? By grace through faith. How do you manage to still serve God after all the disappointments you have had? By grace through faith.

How have you been able to forgive people who have harmed you? By grace through faith. Not because they deserve it, not because you feel like it, but by grace through faith. How have you been able to support the work of the ministry financially? Not because you have it, but by grace through faith.

There is never a perfect state of existence with no problems, no attacks, no setbacks, no disappointments and no frustrations. That world does not exist here. It is called heaven and you are not there yet. Yes, we expect heaven on earth but It is part of life to learn to go through things by grace through faith.

[2 Corinthians 12:9 New King James Version \(NKJV\)](#)

9 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

Grace releases the substance of faith for you. By grace through faith. It takes a lot of strain away from us when we realize this simple truth. Because we think we have to obtain it. We think that we have to earn it. Whereas there is a completely new ball game, a whole new dimension of living, which we cannot take any credit for. "Not that any man should boast." It is by grace through faith so that none of us can boast.

#### Conclusion:

- We live from the Substance of our Faith. This means that we let patience have its perfect work in our lives.
- What is the substance of our faith? It is the accumulated evidence of our faith over time added to knowing the Word/Scripture
- We operate from this place of knowing that “if God had done this for me in the past” I can with confidence look to the future.
- You tap into this way of living through thanksgiving and praise.
- The foundation that we therefore operate from is the substance of our faith and not fact.
- We wait on confidence in our spirit man and then we walk on the substance of faith.
- We only do what we can see ourselves doing confidently.
- Our confidence then is based upon faith that we have already been prepared by God to walk into things like healing, prosperity and abundant living, other nations etc.
- The right amount of faith was measured out by God for each one and has already been given to us and
- We live by Grace through Faith. Grace releases the substance of faith for you so that no man can boast.

## Lockdown Bible Study Session 9

### **Faith:** The Spirit of Faith

2 Corinthians 4:13  
2 Corinthians 4:18  
Numbers 13:33

### **Faith:** Resilient Faith

Luke 4:18-20  
2 Corinthians 11:23-33  
Acts 27:21-25  
Acts 9:13-19  
2 Timothy 4:6-8

Introduction: The Apostle Paul gives us some powerful insight about **how to cultivate the spirit of faith.**

2 Corinthians 4:13 [New King James Version \(NKJV\)](#)

**13** And since **we have the same spirit of faith**, according to what is written, **“I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak.**

2 Corinthians 4:18 [New King James Version \(NKJV\)](#)

**18** while we **do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen.** For **the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.**

Read carefully what he says:

- We have **the same spirit** of faith
- We **believe and therefore we speak**
- We **look not** at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen
- The **things which are seen are temporal**; but the **things which are not seen are eternal.**

Our **inner picture is important** – the **point of departure from where we see.** Let’s look at one such example found in Numbers 13:23-33.

### **Caleb and Joshua had a spirit of faith**

When the other ten spies brought a report full of fear **Caleb and Joshua brought a faith report.** They all saw the same things but **the point of departure was different.**

Numbers 13:33 [New King James Version \(NKJV\)](#)

**33** There **we saw** the **giants** (the descendants of Anak came from the giants); and **we were like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight.”**

Caleb and Joshua said, **no! We are well able to take the land** because **they are like grasshoppers in our sight! Their defense/protection has departed!** But the people of Israel listened to the evil report instead of the faith report.

**Twelve men were sent to spy out the land. God send these men to go see what God was about to do for the nation. The journey was designed to give them a witness of what God prepared for the nation. It is a preview of what was to come.**

Today **God still does the same. God will take us ahead of time to wet our appetite** to give us a witness of **what he is ready to give or release to us. The spirit of faith will open up visions of God's design to those who walk in it.** It is **the ability to see beyond where you at right now.**

These twelve men were sent to **spy out the promises of God** and bring **back a faith report to stir the nation into hope and faith filled works.**

See the principal:

We see this principle best explained as we look to **Jesse. He saw his son David be ordained as King** of Israel by the prophet, **yet he sent him back to the sheep** to tend to them **until David, through time and suffering walked into that ordination. Visions of tomorrow are needed** but it does **not mean that we step into them immediately.** We **still have to suffer and fight the good fight of faith** to step into these promises.

**Having the spirit of faith gives us a different perspective** whereby we live **that'll give us the ability to see with God's sees.** After **times of struggle and trail** in the wilderness **the devil will try to convince us that what we saw were not real** or from God but this is not true.

**Do not be discouraged and loose heart** for even through your suffering might have been long and the trail at times seems to be unbearable **the reward is always worth the pain and effort.**

**Twelve men came back** and they **brought with them grapes.** They **brought back proof of the blessings** of the Promised Land. All **twelve had a taste** of these grapes **but ten perceived themselves in such a way that they could not step into the promise.**

**Knowing that God is able is not good enough; you have to know that you are also able.** The way you perceive yourself determines how you will access the promises of God.

What we can learn from the grasshopper:

- If you **see yourself as a grasshopper** you will always want to **run from adversity.** It is in the **nature of a grasshopper to get out of trouble quickly** with those big hind legs. **Grasshoppers are not designed to fight.**

A key to unlocking what God has for you is to also know that **your promise is hidden in trouble. Suffering is important for us to get to what God promised for us. Running from trouble will only delay** the fulfilment of the promises of God for our lives.

The **taste we get of the promises of God** we get with **the purpose to propel us to go through the trail and wilderness** into the fulfilment of the promises. Ten men came back and told of the big giants in the Promised Land and **only two came back and told of how big their God was. God is bigger than our trouble; sickness and need. God is bigger!**

- When you **see yourself as a grasshopper** then **everybody else will see you as a grasshopper. People will treat you the way you treat yourself. We are victors and not victims. The enemy will treat you the way you treat yourself.** Sometimes we need to **fight self and not the enemy** because **the problem is in our perspective.**
- **Grasshoppers don't eat grapes.** They eat **grass en leaves** but they do not eat grapes. The way the **enemy kills the passion and momentum of the church** is to **whisper in our ears that we are**

**nothing more than grasshoppers.** The **battlefield is the mind of man** and as long as we believe the lie of the devil, **we are unable to walk into the promises of God.**

**The spirit of faith elevates the believer into the understanding of who we are in Christ.** We need to **make up our minds today that we are not grasshoppers.**

The people of Israel **listened to the evil report** instead of the faith report. As a **result**, they had to wonder for **40 years in the wilderness** until the generation of unbelievers **died out.** **Caleb and Joshua had a different spirit of faith and they entered the Promised Land.**

The **substance of our faith gives us confidence to walk out the many faith filled works prepared for us.** **The spirit of faith will open our eyes to the manifold possibilities already decreed over our lives.**

**Because we have the spirit of faith we can go to the nations of the world and preach the Gospel of Peace.** **We prophecy by the spirit of faith, we lay hands on the sick by the spirit of faith and see them recover** in the Name of Jesus! **God promised to be with us** wherever we go and **confirm His word with signs and wonders following!**

Conclusion:

- **The measure of faith** helps us through our **daily life to overcome and to walk with confidence.**
- **The gift of faith** comes to our **aid in moments where a rush of faith is needed** to perform the miraculous works of God, but
- **The spirit of faith is permanent.** It is **having another kind of perspective! Seeing and looking with different eyes and having a Godly point of view.**

**Complacency robs us of all the opportunities to do something for God.** We need to **see like Jesus, pray like Jesus and act like Jesus.** When you are **full of the spirit of faith your greeting will inspire people to believe in your God!** (See Luke 1:41-44) and **the very sound of your voice will bring faith into the hearts of people! People will be uplifted when you speak words of faith! People will call you blessed and God will do mighty things wherever you go!**

Faith: Resilient Faith

**Introduction: It is a battle to start believing** because **your fleshly mind reasons against faith.** Then **once you believe it is a battle to keep on believing** because you have **so many reasons to stop believing** in an invisible God!

That is why **Paul refers to it as a fight, or a battle.** It is a **battle to keep on believing in God.** The **devil does his best to discourage you and to make you doubt,** because he **wants to rob you of your faith.**

But **God has given you a quality of faith** that is **supernatural.** He has **given you resilient faith.** Your **faith can bounce back** in the face of adversity. Your faith will **get up and go on when everything seems lost.** **Nothing can stop your faith in God,** because it **comes from God!**

It is the **kind of faith Jesus had.** It is the **kind of faith Peter had.** It is the **kind of faith John had.** It is the **kind of faith Paul had.**

**We have received the same measure of faith - as they had!**

Looking at Paul's suffering:

**Paul suffered much during his apostleship.** But he **never stopped believing** in God!

Let us examine **a few of the things Paul suffered** that could have stopped his faith.

[2 Corinthians 11:23-33](#) New King James Version (NKJV)

**23** Are they ministers of Christ? —I speak as a fool—I *am* more: **in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.** **24** From **the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.** **25** Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep; **26** *in* journeys often, *in* perils of waters, *in* perils of robbers, *in* perils of *my own* countrymen, *in* perils of the Gentiles, *in* perils in the city, *in* perils in the wilderness, *in* perils in the sea, *in* perils among false brethren; **27** in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fasting's often, in cold and nakedness— **28** besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: **my deep concern for all the churches.** **29** **Who is weak, and I am not weak?** Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn *with indignation*? **30** If I must boast, **I will boast in the things which concern my infirmity.** **31** The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. **32** In Damascus **the governor**, under Aretas the king, was guarding the city of the Damascenes with a garrison, **desiring to arrest me;** **33** but I was **let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped from his hands.**

**Paul says he glories in these things! Why?** Because **he has learned that when he is weak, Christ's strength is revealed.**

[2 Corinthians 12:9-11](#) New King James Version (NKJV)

**9** And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for **My strength is made perfect in weakness.**” Therefore, most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For **when I am weak, then I am strong.**

**Paul had resilient faith.** Resilient **also means elastic, tough, durable a kind of bounce-back faith.** If anyone had reasons to doubt God and to stop believing in Jesus Christ, it was Paul, and yet **his faith bounced back every time** after a setback and he kept on believing.

[Acts 27:21-25](#) New King James Version (NKJV)

**21** But after long abstinence from food, then Paul stood in the midst of them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. **22** And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. **23** For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, **24** saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God

has granted you all those who sail with you.’ 25 Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me.

**At the end of his life Paul still believed in God. In spite of all that happened to him, in spite of all the things he suffered, in spite of the persecution for Christ’s sake, in spite of all the rejection, in spite of all the imprisonment, in spite of all the shipwrecks, he could still say: ‘I believe God!’**

The basis for resilient faith

He could say this, **because he was told right at the beginning of the ‘great things’ he would suffer** for the sake of the Gospel.

[Acts 9:13-19](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

13 Then Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.” 15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for **he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel.** 16 **For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.**” 17 And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18 Immediately there fell from his eyes *something* like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized. 19 So when he had received food, he was strengthened. Then Saul spent some days with the disciples at Damascus.

At the end of his life Paul told Timothy

[2 Timothy 4:6-8](#) *New King James Version (NKJV)*

6 **For I am already being poured out as a drink offering,** and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 **I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.** 8 Finally, **there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day,** and not to me only but also **to all who have loved His appearing.**

## Lockdown Bible Study Session 10

### **Faith:** Enter the Rest of Faith

Matthew 11:28-29 Psalm 23:1-2 Jeremiah 50:6	Hebrews 4:9-11 Exodus 33:14 Psalm 23:2
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#### Matthew 11:28-29 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

**28** Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden *and* overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.] **29** Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls.

At Harvester we have a mandate from God - He told us to: **“Give My people rest.”**

#### **Jesus Promised us Rest**

Jesus promised that **if we learn meekness and humility from Him that we would find rest for our souls.**

**Rest is ceasing from your own works and from your own effort, action and labor.** This means - **No more self-effort.** Rest is **an end of fleshly and legalistic works.**

#### Psalm 23:1-2 New King James Version (NKJV)

**23** The LORD *is* my shepherd;

**I shall not want.**

2 He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

The **worldly systems drive people like slaves.** The whole **world is geared to make you feel uncomfortable with rest and quietness.**

There is **always a lot of noise where the spirit of the world is** in charge! WWF & RAW? All the noise and all the show and the fans go wild and **more is never enough!** The **glaring lights of the entertainment world and the sounds of the cinemas** - the wild and loud parties. The constant jabbering of radio disc jockeys and news readers - everybody talking on cell phones and thumping music in cars; traffic jams everywhere - **there is no peace for the wicked!**

The problem **why we do not enter into rest** - **We have forgotten our resting place**

#### Jeremiah 50:6 New King James Version (NKJV)

**6** “My people have been lost sheep.

Their shepherds have led them astray;

They have turned them away *on* the mountains.

They have gone from mountain to hill;

They have forgotten their resting place.

**Only God can give rest.** Like **Asa the King of Judah** we need to **cry out** to the Lord, '**Help us O Lord, for we rest on you!**' Asa and the people made up their minds to continually seek God until he gives rest all around.

### **Under the yoke of Christ**

In order to **pick up His yoke that is easy**, one first has to **lay down the yoke we are carrying right now**. It could be a **yoke of sin; damaging relationships; addiction; the past; unreasonable expectations; demonic oppression; guilt and/or condemnation and the cares of this world**.

**To take up His yoke is to take up faith in His Word;** to learning from the life of Christ; to becoming meek (placing all your strength under God's control); to submit to spiritual leadership and authority and to take up humility (to have a sane estimation of yourself and your abilities).  
The choice is ours!

### **Enter through Faith**

[Hebrews 4:9-11 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition \(AMPC\)](#)

**9** So then, **there is still awaiting a full *and* complete Sabbath-rest reserved for the [true] people of God;** **10** For he who has **once entered [God's] rest also has ceased from [the weariness and pain] of human labors**, just as God rested from those labors peculiarly His own. **11** Let us therefore **be zealous *and* exert ourselves *and* strive diligently to enter that rest [of God, to know and experience it for ourselves]**, that no one may fall *or* perish by the same kind of unbelief *and* disobedience [into which those in the wilderness fell].

We have to **work with our faith to enter His rest.** If we **hear God's word on rest** today, we have to **mix it with faith to make it profitable in our lives**. If we don't **make a willful decision to believe that we can have rest**, we won't enter His rest.

**Apostle Andre always says, we cooperate with God and apply His Word to the best of our ability and the rest is faith!**

**We can't produce His rest** in our lives. You **can only enter into it** through faith. You have to **put your faith in him and remove any other hindrances and distraction to your faith** in Him.

### **The sin of Unbelief**

**Israel could not enter** into the rest of God **because of** their **unbelief**. They arrived at the **entrance to the Promised Land within two weeks of escaping from Egypt**. Then Moses sent out **12 spies to spy out the land**. **Only Caleb and Joshua, came back with a good report**.

The other **ten complained and murmured**; 'there are giants in the land. **We are like grasshoppers in their sight.**' Caleb and Joshua disagreed: '**No, they are like grasshoppers in our sight! Let us go up at once and take the land!**' But unfortunately, **the majority prevailed**. It took Israel **another 40 years to cross that line again...**

**What is robbing you of your rest?** You are right at the borderline of your Promise in Christ Jesus. You can enter right now – if you release your faith. Or you **can sit with the same problem for the next 40 years** of your life!

**You enter the rest of God by faith!** You get to know God in the area where you are being defeated right now and **then you enter the rest of God concerning that area.**

**Faith is not merely a spiritual tool** to help you get every material benefit you can possibly desire - **It is a key to entering into the rest of God.**

**While you are still worried and concerned about something you have not yet entered the rest of faith. Once you truly believe you will no longer labor to believe.** There is a difference: the one is based on works and the other on trust.

**Rest is a permanent tranquil abode? A place of rest within.**

### **The test of Faith**

Now **Faith must be tried/tested otherwise it is not faith.** Some believers want a soft-pillowed ease and comfort on the way to eternity and **mistakenly see trails of their faith and persecution as a sign of God's displeasure instead of opportunities to exercise their faith until they enter into a state of permanent rest** and trust in God.

**The Movie, The Right Stuff,** is about *pilots who tried to break the sound barrier and eventually about pilots who ventured out into Outer Space.* They had to be **made of the right stuff.**

When pilots broke through the **sound barrier the first-time planes were not made to fly at that speed and altitude and as a result some of those brave men died** to pioneer the way for the jets we have today. There had to be **some adjustments made to the planes** before they could cross that invisible line again.

**Trusting God is not a place of total inactivity?** it is **not for the faint-hearted.** It takes guts to continually trust in an invisible God. **Faith is a fight. It is a battle.**

### **Obedience required**

**Obedience brings quietness in the soul.** When you have obeyed as far as you know that it is possible you will find rest for your soul. Humility brings obedience. Jesus encouraged his disciples to learn humility from Him so that they can learn to obey and find rest for their souls.

### **The Sabbath Rest**

'Sabbath' is the Hebrew concept of rest meaning: 'continuous supply' or 'out of rest comes strength'. Now who would not want this kind of rest, where **you increase while you are resting.**

Today it is **no longer a specific day of the week** – because Jesus Christ has become our Sabbath's Rest. **We have rest within ourselves now, because we believe in Jesus Christ. We operate from a position of rest. We do not let anything or anyone disturb our rest. We have a continual Sabbath.** (The Old Covenant commandments were a shadow of things to come. **Now that the new things have arrived, we should enter into them in order to experience the better things** of the New Covenant.)

**Our true resting place is not a Saturday or a Sunday: our true resting place is in God! Let us not forget our resting place!** Paul says if some want to keep a certain day, let them keep it, but **it is no longer necessary!**

**A new day has dawned! It is a new day! There is a new way! Jesus paved the new way for us! He is our Sabbath Rest now!** Hallelujah! I rest securely in Him. I place my faith in Him and that gives me rest!  
Amen

**Conclusion:**

- It is the **Presence of the Lord** brings rest.

Exodus 33:14 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

14 And the Lord said, My Presence shall go with you, and I will give you rest.

- He **does not build you a bridge over troubled waters!**

Psalms 23:2 Amplified Bible, Classic Edition (AMPC)

2 He makes me lie down in [fresh, tender] green pastures; **He leads me beside the still *and* restful waters.**

**What are the enemies of spiritual rest?**

- **Stubbornness removes rest from your life.** You **trouble your own soul!**
- **Sin takes away your rest and leads you back into captivity** to become the devil's slave!
- **Unbelief:** Israel after being slaves for 400 years found it hard to believe in Canaan! **They could not enter their rest because of unbelief!** Do you find it hard to believe that you can find rest for your soul in Christ?
- **Self-effort does not bring rest.** When you trust in God you can find rest. **God wants to bring you into a mature relationship with Him before He will change your circumstances.** If you are out of rest you make people nervous and jittery around you. **Rest is based on relationship not circumstances.** He makes us uncomfortable until we submit to His ways. Then **pressure from the outside can no longer disturb your rest** because you trust in God.

**Application of these principles of rest**

**Repent and admit that you are not in the rest of faith** and that you are not seeing **God's perspective in your circumstances.** Take your eyes off your circumstances and **keep your eyes on Jesus the author and finisher of your faith.** Stop relying on your own self-effort; do not put your trust in people, but in the Living God.

The **Good Shepherd will restore your soul and lead you in paths of righteousness** for His sake; you'll fear no evil. **His rod and His staff will comfort you; He will prepare a table before your enemies and make your cup run over!** Surely goodness and mercy shall follow you all the days of your life and you will dwell in the house of the Lord forever! Amen.